



Week 12 (July 19-25): Lesson Guide

Open In Prayer

Welcome/Introductions

Ask the group to recall the guidelines for discussion that we use to create a safe environment.

Ask someone to retell last week's story from 1 Kings 17:7-15 (Elijah and the Widow).

Ask someone on your team to read the Hook Question - Ask, "What are some of the characteristics of a person who is *really* trusting God with their money?"

Ask someone from your team to read the following background for the story:

A disciple of Jesus is someone who is a follower of Jesus. During Jesus' time on the earth He had many disciples; however, He set twelve of those disciples apart and really invested His life into those guys. These guys gave up everything to follow Jesus. They left their homes, their towns, their families, their businesses, and many of their possessions in order to follow Jesus. By giving up their lives to follow Jesus, Jesus became responsible for their needs.

In every story in the Bible, God always provides everything His people need to accomplish His mission for their lives. The needs always varied – money to pay taxes, bread to eat, water to drink, shelter from evil, grace and strength to stay strong to the point of death or torture, etc. – God always provides for the needs of His people who are carrying out His mission; all His followers must do is trust in Him.

Today's story is no different. In today's story, Jesus (who is God) sends His disciples out on a mission, but He gives them some strange instructions. These instructions will require that they trust in Jesus for success and not in themselves. This is where our story begins...

Tell the story from Mark 6:7-13

Rebuild the story – (Group members tell the story based on what they remember)

Read Mark 6:7-13 – (Ask the group to read these scriptures)

Discuss these questions:

- What did Jesus tell His disciples to take with them on their mission?
- Why do you think Jesus gave them this instruction?
- What does this story teach us about God and His provision? (Remember, Jesus is God)
- How do you need to apply this story to your life?
- Does the way you handle your money demonstrate that you trust God? Why or why not?

Ask for a volunteer to retell the story one last time.

Ask for a volunteer to tell the story next week.

Prayer Requests (ask someone in the group to take notes so you can email the requests to the group)

Pray (don't feel the need to mention every request in prayer again, just pray for the group and send the email)